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Message Text

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60
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AGR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-05 IGA-01 OMB-01

/073 W
---------- 097945
R 281030Z FEB 75
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3122
INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMCONSUL DANANG
AMCONSUL NHA TRANG
AMCONSUL BIEN HOA
AMCONSUL CAN THO

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PASS FAS/AMS/USDA

E.O. 11652: N/A DECON 2/28/76
TAGS ECRP, VS
SUBJECT: CORRECTION TO RICE SITREP FOR JANUARY 1975 CERP 4012

REF: SAIGON 2161
CORRECTION TO SAIGON 2161

1. SUMMARY: PRELIMINARY ESTIMATES REFERRED TO IN PARA 9 OF REFTEL WERE BASED ON MISINTERPRETATION OF DATA SUPPLIED BY MOA. REEXAMINATION OF THAT DATA REVEALS THAT DELTA PRODUCTION IS UP, NOT RPT NOT DOWN SLIGHTLY AS REPORTED.

2. MOA HAS BEEN USING PRODUCTION FIGURES SUBSTANTIALLY HIGHER THAN THE MISSION'S, REPORTING 7.0 MILLION MT OF PADDY PRODUCTION IN
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73-74, FOR EXAMPLE, COMPARED WITH THE MISSION'S ESTIMATE OF 6.6 MILLION TONS. THUS, WHEN MOA PROVIDED US ITS PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE

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OF 74-75 PRODUCTION, IT SHOWED, AS WE REPORTED IN REFTEL, A DECLINE IN DELTA PRODUCTION AND AN INCREASE IN DEFICIT AREA PRODUCTION, AS COMPARED WITH THEIR FIGURE FOR LAST YEAR OF A TOTAL OF 7.0 MILLION MT.

3. MOA, HOWEVER, WITHOUT INFORMING US, HAD ACCEPTED THE MISSION'S ESTIMATE OF 6.6 MILLION MT FOR 1974. THUS THEIR NEW ESTIMATE REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF PRODUCTION THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY, NOT JUST IN THE DEFICIT AREA AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED.

4. WHILE WE RECOGNIZE THE SUBSTANTIAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO SETS OF FIGURES, WE ARE PREPARED TO ACCEPT MOA'S NEW PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE OF TOTAL 74-75 PRODUCTION OF 7.1 MILLION MT OF PADDY, SUBJECT TO PROBABLE DOWNWARD REVISION. MOA HAS ADVISED US THAT ITS ASSESSMENT OF CROP DAMAGE IS NOT YET COMPLETE AND HAS YET TO BE FACTORED INTO THE FINAL PRODUCTION ESTIMATE.

5. FYI. OUR ESTIMATE OF 73-74 PRODUCTION WAS 5.17 MILLION MT IN THE DELTA AND 1.43 MILLION MT IN THE DEFICIT AREA. PRELIMINARY ESTIMATE OF 74-75 PRODUCTION IS 5.4 MILLION MT IN THE DELTA AND 1.7 MILLION MT IN THE DEFICIT AREA.
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